cessation of activities in 28 mills as follows :

Name of the State	No. of mills without any activities
U.P.	7
Gujarat	8
Andhra Pradesh	1
West Bengal	10
Bihar	1
Orissa	1
Total	28

Since NTC is paying wages, salaries, bonus, etc. to all their employees, the question of any employees becoming jobless does not arise. NTC suffered a net loss of Rs. 473.02 crores (Prov.) in 1995-96 due to a variety of reasons such as excess manpower, obsolete machinery and shortage of working capital.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The Government have approved a revised Turn Around Plan for NTC mills, involving modernisation of 79 mills at an outlay of Rs. 2005.72 crores, restructuring of 36 unviable mills into 18 viable mills, etc. The revised modernisation plan has been placed before the BIFR for its approval, since 8 out of 9 subsidiaries of NTC have been referred to the BIFR which has declared them to be sick industrial companies.

Investment by USA

2223. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the extent to which the US investment proposals have been approved during 1996-97; and

(b) the total US investment likely to be made in India and the projects that have been agreed upon?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). A total of 142 number of US investment proposals envisaging Foreign Direct Investment of Rs. 7248.97 crores have been approved by the Government during the period from 1.4.96 to 30.9.96.

The details of such proposals viz; Name and country of foreign collaborator, equity investment involved, item of manufacture/activity are published by the Indian Investment Centre as a supplement to the Monthly Newsletter and copies of these are regularly supplied to the Parliament Library.

[Translation]

Financial Position of Banks in Maharashtra

2224. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the financial position of Public Sector banks functioning in Maharashtra, bank-wise as on date;

(b) the details of the proposals for setting up Co-operative banks in the State; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) A statement showing profitability and financial position of public sector banks having their corporate offices/head office in Maharashtra is given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) and (c). National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has informed that as on date they have not received any proposal for setting up of new District Central cooperative banks/State cooperative banks in Maharashtra State. After the issue revised guidelines in May, 1993, RBI have upto 30.11.1996 received in all 288 proposals for setting up of new urban co-operative banks in Maharashtra State. Out of these, 173 proposals have been granted in principle clearance for registration and 103 banks have completed registration formalities and have been issued licences to commence banking business under Section 22 of B.R. Act, 1949 (As applicable to Co-operative Societies), 58 proposals for setting up new urban co-operative banks have been rejected as adequate urban banking facilities were already available at the respective centres and one proposal has been withdrawn. The remaining 56 proposals are either under scrutiny of RBI or/under correspondence with Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Maharashtra State, Pune for rectification of discrepancies or submission of required information/documents.

STATEMENT

Statement Showing the Financial Position as on 31.3.1996 of Banks which have Corporate/Head Office in Maharashtra

S. No.	Name of the Bank	Paid-up Capital	Reserves and Surplus	Deposits	Advances	Net Profit/ Loss	Capital Adequacy
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Bank of Baroda	577	1154	28370	16013	204	11.20
2.	Bank of India	582	678	27523	15596	276	8.44

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Bank of Maharashtra	749	60	5971	2692	13	8.49
4.	Central Bank of India	1305	400	19752	8903	(-74)	2.63
5.	Dena Bank	147	130	6476	3402	52	8.27
6.	Union Bank of India	338	899	17892	8681	80	9.50

[Translation]

Misuse of Facilities by Trade and Industry

2225. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Hardoi) : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Misuse of facilities is holding up pace of reforms; Ramaiah" appearing in the 'Times of India' dated August 10, 1996;

(b) if so, the details of misuse of facilities by the trade and industry sector; and

(c) the remecial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some complaints have been received alleging misuse of the Value Based Advance Licensing Scheme. These complaints relate to over-invoicing and misdeclaration of value, duty export related frauds, and bonafides of the exporters. Certain cases of violation of the gold/silver Jewellery articles export promotion and replenishment scheme have also been reported.

(c) A number of steps have been taken to prevent the misuse of the Value Based Advance Licence during the last 3 years. These include (i) fine tuning of the operation of the VBAL Scheme based on standard input-output norms only; (ii) mandatory imposition of export obligation both in quantity and value terms in VBAL; (iii) increasing the number of import items in the Sensitive List which are subject to quantity, or quantity and value restrictions under Value Based Licences; (iv) making the Scheme inapplicable to certain sectors, like silk; (v) stopping operations of specified categories of VBAL; (vi) issue of comprehensive instructions on 6.3.1995 for checking over-valuation of exports under VBAL; and (vii) to overcome the problems of non-reversal of MODVAT prior to export, Under the Scheme, exporters are required to pay Additional Customs Duty at the time of import with affect from 1.4.1995, subject to adjustment at a later stage. The procedure for verification of the availment of MODVAT in respect of inputs used for manufacture of export products has also been streamlined. The Deptt. of Revenue has also issued a Circular on 19.4.1996 under which the field formations have been directed to refer the cases of inflated licences to the DGFT.

As regards gold jewellery cases, the Govt. have constituted an Inter-Ministrial Group under the Chairmanship of Commissioner of Customs, Delhi, to take coordinated action against defaulting exporters of gold jewellery.

[English]

Collaboration with Germany

2226. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Federal Republic of Germany has recently extended its co-operation to meet changing demands of the industry in India regarding vocational training system by granting DM 15 million (Rs. 36 crore);

(b) whether the Union Government have taken any decision regarding collaboration with Germany in different fields; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) At the last annual Indo-German Negotiations on Development Cooperation held in Germany from 2-5 September, 1996, both sides agreed to further increase cooperation in the field of vocational training. Out of the funds for technical commitments amounting to DM 11 million for projects relating to vocational training. Prior to this, there was commitment for DM 4 million towards preparation of instructional material for improvement in the standards of training in ITIs, in the industries and the establishments implementing apprenticeship training scheme in Central Instructional Media Institute, (CIMI), Madras.

(b) and (c). The sectoral breakup of technology and investment areas of German companies approved by the Government of India from 1.8.1991 to 31.8.1996 are: Metallurgical Industry (36.23%), Transportation (12.58%), Telecommunication (9.87%), Fuels (8.32%), Electrical Equipment (7.12%) and others (25.88%).

Foreign Investment

2227. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have liberalised the parameters covering foreign investment proposals; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?